

IMAGE REPRODUCING APPARATUS, IMAGE REPRODUCING METHOD  
AND COMPUTER READABLE STORAGE MEDIUM

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 An image reproducing apparatus, that outputs and reproduces an image having a greater number of gradation levels than that of input image data, is comprised of a buffer memory that accumulates input image data for a plurality of lines; an image data storing unit that extracts and stores image data of region of a  
15 predetermined size from the buffer memory; a specified portion detecting unit that detects a specified portion in which gradation of image data varies slowly from the predetermined region of stored image data; and an intermediate density data generating unit that generates,  
20 based on a result of detection by the specified portion detecting unit, intermediate density data composed with step smaller than the minimum value of a step between different gradation levels of image data. In the above apparatus, an image having a greater number of gradation  
25 levels than that of image data is output based on the intermediate density data. On the other hand, an image reproducing method executed by the above-described image reproducing apparatus or the like, is disclosed.